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Worldwide Report

LAW OF THE SEA

No. 144

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DELHI CALLS FOR DEMILITARIZATION OF INDIAN OCEAN

BK031333 Delhi General Overseas Service in English 1010 GMT 3 Mar 81

[Station commentator D.N. Wanchoo commentary: "Indian Ocean in Turmoil"]

[Text] India's apprehensions about the Indian Ocean have come true. The UN Committee on the Indian Ocean, which was to have decided about the date of the conference aimed at turning the area into zone of peace, has completed a week of meetings without agreeing even on its own agenda.

As committee chairman, M. Balasubramaniam of Sri Lanka, rightly told the 45-member body: We are now back to square one. The Western countries opposed to discuss preparations for the conference on the plea that there should be a harmonization of views on the political and security climate in the area before any decision about the convening of the conference is taken. The pretext given by them was that the situation has changed since the adoption of the resolution declaring the Indian Ocean a zone of peace by the United Nations.

The other delegates, including the Soviet bloc, have, however, been urging the committee to concentrate on practical arrangements, including the fixing up of a date for the convening of the conference in Colombo.

Meanwhile, with the deadlock on the very basic issue, any hope for convening such a conference in the near future appears to have further receded. India and the other littoral states of the Indian Ocean have reasons to harbor apprehensions about superpowers' intentions in the area.

The three centuries of ruthless exploitation, colonization and political subjugation are still fresh in the memory of the littoral states spread along the seaboard from the Cape of Good Hope to Indonesia and the Far East. What started as an ancient voyage of discovery of trade routes to the Indies ended up in the inhuman slave trade in millions of Africans and the ruthless exploitation of precious spices and raw materials of the colonial countries unparalleled anywhere in the history of the world.

Now that political grip of the colonial countries over the littoral states of the Indian Ocean has loosened, it appears that they still are not in a mood to relax their economic stronghold over the countries in the region. Apprehending this new form of imperialism, there has been a growing convergence of views among the Indian Ocean countries toward collective development independent of interference

from outside powers. For this, elimination of superpower presence in the Indian Ocean is necessary.

The importance of peace in the Indian Ocean for India and other littoral states cannot be underestimated. As India's Prime Minister Mrs Indira Gandhi recently pointed out, the strategic and economic potentialities of the Indian Ocean are of utmost importance to India and should be safeguarded with great vigilance. Therefore, the demand of the Indian Ocean countries for controlling their own trade routes and ensuring peace in the Indian Ocean assumes a legitimacy that the world opinion cannot afford to ignore.

Doubts about the intentions of the United States and the Western countries among the Asian and African nations are not without foundation. Despite the protest by India and the littoral states and in the face of world opinion, the United States, Britain and France, in concert with Italy and West Germany, attempted to take the General Assembly decision to hold the conference in Colombo in 1981 to implement the UN declaration of Indian Ocean as a zone of peace [sentence as heard]. Simultaneously, the British admiralty decided to reestablish a permanent presence in the Indian Ocean. It dispatched a missile [as heard] and a frigate to beef up its task force in West Asian quarters.

A day after, a U.S. battle group consisting of a regular power aircraft carrier, a guided-missile destroyer and a missile cruiser steamed up to rendezvous with a sizeable Western fleet of two other American aircraft carriers, and their escort Flottillas, British and West German warships and French squadrons of missile-carrying attack vessels in the Persian Gulf and in the Gulf of Oman. These events are not unconnected. They bring into sharp focus the fears of the littoral countries that the big-power naval buildup in progress will only escalate a fast-deteriorating political and security situation in the Indian Ocean.

Alive to this growing danger to the peace and security to the countries in the region, India has been conveying its strong opposition to the military presence of the United States in the Indian Ocean and the Gulf areas repeatedly, both bilaterally as well as at the United Nations and other international forums. India is also actively in touch with the affected countries of the area for concerted action for the reduction and ultimate elimination of great power military presence from this area.

India intends to pursue this line in the contemplated conference on the Indian Ocean both in the preparatory committee now going on and at the conference in Colombo scheduled to be held this year. In this endeavor, India has now unanimous and unstinted support of the nonaligned countries which met last month in New Delhi.

CSO: 5200

PLEA FOR BAN ON FOREIGN SHIPS FISHING IN NATIONAL WATERS

Karachi BUSINESS RECORDER in English 18 Feb 81 p 1

[Text]

The Fish Meal Manufacturers Group of Pakistan has demanded ban on the operation of foreign flag fisheries vessels in Pakistani waters in collaboration with the local fishing companies.

The ban demanded in Karachi yesterday in a press conference addressed by the Chairman of the Group Akbar Ali Doosa who said the catch of fish by the local fishermen has gone down considerably since the permission to foreign vessels to operate in Pakistani waters.

He said this has resulted in increase in the prices of fish and its products.

Some Pakistani business firms are fishing in the coastal waters of Pakistan with the collaboration of the South Korean trawlers which are highly mechanised and have directly affected the catch of the local fishermen.

Doosa said that South Korean ships catch all kinds of fish including trash fish which has badly affected the supply of this quality of fish at the local market resulting in higher prices of the fish meal.

He said the poultry industry which has started gaining momentum in Pakistan lately has become a target of high cost of production due to increased prices of the fish meal.

Akbar Ali Doosa said recently the Poultry Producers Trade Group at a press conference had

called for ban on the export of fish meal due to its high costs in the local markets.

He said ban on the export of fish meal will not solve any problem because the landing of fish has considerably declined whereas the demand of the same has increased locally.

Doosa further said that the fish meal manufacturers were meeting the demand of the local market but they could not reduce the price because of higher prices of trash fish the production cost was too high.

Referring to the export of fish meal, he said its volume has declined since last two years and only that quality was being exported which is not used locally. He said if ban is imposed on the fish meal then the fishermen will switch over to shrimp catch and there will be no fish meal at all because the fishermen will not be ready to catch fish if it brings them lower income.

In this respect he referred to ban on the export of area meal and blood, two ingredients of the poultry feed which since the ban have completely disappeared from the market because no one produces them now, he claimed.

He said now the poultry industry is more dependent on the fish meal because of non-availability of dried meat and blood.

He said that the major portion of the fish meal produced in the country was consumed by the local poultry industry and only a meager amount was reported.—PPI.

PAKISTAN

BRIEFS

TAIWAN FISHING TRAWLER APPREHENDED--A Pakistan naval ship has apprehended another Taiwanese trawler for unauthorized fishing in Pakistan's territorial waters. According to Associated Press of Pakistan, the trawler and its crew have been handed over to the harbor police for further action. [Text] [BK260636 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 26 Feb 81]

TAIWANESE FISHING TRAWLERS APPREHENDED--Two more Taiwanese fishing trawlers have been apprehended by the Pakistani Navy while illegally fishing in Pakistani waters. The fishing trawlers caught off (Ormana) on the Makran coast are being taken to Karachi by the navy. This brings to three the number of Taiwanese fishing trawlers caught by the Pakistan Navy during the last few days. [Text] [BK261732 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 26 Feb 81]

FIFTH TAIWANESE TRAWLER APPREHENDED--Another Taiwanese trawler has been apprehended while fishing off the Baluchistan coast near Ormara in Pakistan's territorial waters. This is the fifth Taiwanese trawler seized within the last month for illegally fishing in Pakistan's territorial waters. [Text] [BK020910 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 2 Mar 81]

TAIWANESE FISHERMEN SENTENCED--Seventeen Taiwanese fishermen were yesterday sentenced till the rising of the court and a fine of Rs 1,000 each, by the ACM Harbour Sub-division, Mr Munawar Opal. The Taiwanese trawler "Yuandar" was apprehended by a Pakistani Navy ship on Jan 29 while fishing in Pakistani waters. The court also ordered forfeiture of 25-30 tons catch of fish and shrimps. Out of the 17 Taiwanese, 14 paid the fine on the spot. The seized catch will be auctioned on Feb 14.--APP. [Text] [Karachi DAWN in English 13 Feb 81 p 6]

CSO: 5200

TRAWLER, FISH PROCESSING PLANT INCREASES PROJECTED

Georgetown GUYANA CHRONICLE in English 10 Feb 81 p 3

[Text] Guyana Fisheries Limited (GFL) plans placing greater emphasis on fishing and less on shrimping this year, a senior company official has said.

In a recent interview, the official also announced plans for the setting up of five depots in the city, in Essequibo and in Berbice with a view to improving its distribution system, and the purchasing of another 20 trawlers and a number of refrigeration vehicles.

In addition, as part of the company's plans for 1981, it will be installing several million dollars worth of sophisticated equipment at its Kingston and McDoom plants and it hopes to enter into agreements with CARICOM countries for the sale of fish.

The processing plant, he explained, plans to handle 8.5 million pounds of fish and just under two million pounds of shrimp. Some of the fish and shrimp will be supplied by other companies.

According to the company official, last year G.F.L. had to switch eight of its vessels from shrimping to fishing because of world inflation and the depressed state of the shrimp market.

Approximately five dollars were lost on every pound of shrimp on the market, he explained. The switch, he added, resulted in an increase of 9.3 million pounds of fish over the projected amount of 1.8 million pounds for 1980.

And, in keeping with the company's projection for 1981, it hopes to catch some 6.3 million pounds of fish and 0.8 million pounds of shrimp.

The G.F.L. is one of the public entities whose performance in 1980 has been severely criticised by the Government. According to the company spokesman, however, apart from the depressed state of the shrimp market in 1980, one of the company's major problems in 1980 was the long "down time" of a number of its trawlers which were forced to remain in port because of the unavailability of spare parts. (GNA)

CSO: 5200

BRIEFS

LIBYAN FISHING TALKS--Talks between Libyan and Guyanese directors of the Guyana-Libya Joint Fishing Development Company are expected to begin today. The Libyans, Mausaud Zletni, A. Dahan and A. Shellig, arrived in the country from Tripoli early yesterday morning. They are scheduled to hold discussions with their Guyanese counterparts Fred Peterkin, Reuben Charles and Winston Welch. Another Libyan official Mr Hassan Arafa, Adviser to the Ministry of Light Industry in Tripoli, Libya, also arrived yesterday morning, and will hold talks with Government officials on several aspects of economic cooperation. The joint fishing company was set up as a legal entity last September, and the decision for its establishment was made last year when President Forbes Burnham, was then Prime Minister. During that official visit, delegations from Guyana and the Libya Arab Jamahiriya reviewed the bilateral relations between the two countries, and identified areas for increased co-operation and collaboration. Statutes relating to joint cooperation were signed between the two countries. [Text] [Georgetown GUYANA CHRONICLE in English 12 Feb 81 p 11]

CSO: 5200

BRIEFS

FISHING SURVEY--An all-island sample survey of the fishing industry is to begin on March 1. During the survey up-to-date information on the fishing industry will be collected from fishermen and collated so as to enable the Ministry of Agriculture to better plan and develop the industry and to improve the accuracy of the annual estimates of fish production in the island, according to API. The last survey of the fishing industry was carried out in 1973. The survey will be carried out in four phases, the first phase in March and the others in June, September and December. It has been organised by the Data Bank and Evaluation division of the Ministry of Agriculture in collaboration with the Ministry's Fisheries division and the Food and Agricultural Organisation. [Text] [Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER in English 17 Feb 81 p 2]

CSO: 5200

DANES DELIVER PROTEST OVER FRG FISHING MINISTER ERTL

Copenhagen INFORMATION in Danish 2 Feb 81 p 3

[Article by Bjarne Lonborg]

[Text] Foreign Minister Kjeld Olesen has warned the West German government against pursuing a hard and uncompromising line with respect to EC fishing policies which can lead to an uncontrolled spread of anti-EC sentiments on Greenland and the Faeroes.

In a letter to his West German colleague Hans-Dietrich Genscher, Kjeld Olesen sharply criticized West German fishing minister Joseph Ertl's "conduct and language" at the last EC fishing ministers' meeting in Brussels.

"The West German conduct at that meeting was completely unacceptable and we will simply not tolerate it in the future. Hence, in my letter to Genscher, I requested that we talk about these matters in order to avoid a recurrence," Kjeld Olesen told the Ritzau Bureau.

The Danish foreign minister fears that rash words and an independent position on West Germany's part with respect to EC fishing policies could make it very difficult or impossible to agree on fishing in the entire North Atlantic.

In his letter to Hans-Dietrich Genscher, Kjeld Olesen calls attention to the fact that both Greenland, an EC member, and the Faeroes, a non-member, are so dependent on fishing that their industry should merit special consideration from EC.

"If West Germany does not understand that, there could be serious consequences," according to Kjeld Olesen.

The West German Foreign Ministry in Bonn does not hide its amazement that a nation's foreign minister actually castigated one of its members in an official communication to the West German government.

"However, it is very unlikely that the West German government will comment officially on a foreign diplomatic communication of this kind," said an official spokesman for the Foreign Ministry in Bonn last Sunday.

Unofficially, West German political sources let it be known that Kjeld Olesen's letter to his colleague in West Germany will not make future, problematic EC fishing negotiations any easier.

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CSO: 5200

INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

LEFTIST PAPER HITS FISHING MINISTER'S ACTION IN BRUSSELS

Copenhagen INFORMATION in Danish 29 Jan 81 p 1

[Editorial by emc]

[Text] The West German fishing minister's verbal attack on our unlucky national hero Karl Hjordnaas late Tuesday evening at the Council of Ministers meeting in Brussels and the Danish minister's subsequent "kneeling" to German superiority has undoubtedly nourished widespread prejudices of one kind or another. Indeed, it reflects a German master-race mentality and EC superpower arrogance, combined with the usual Danish softness, a social democratic willingness to compromise on anything, and the special personal characteristics of Minister Hjordnaas, by which he has been nicknamed Karl Smart.

Prejudices are not necessarily wrong and, in many ways, it is tempting not to judge recent events at EC headquarters, except to simply confirm that we should have known what would happen.

Tempting, not only because a closer evaluation of events demands a rather detailed analysis of the confusing national, international, political, economic and ecological interests, which all play a role when we attempt to establish a joint EC fishing policy.

The following is far from being an exhaustive analysis of this confusion; it simply points to some of the possible reasons for Germany's anger and Denmark's kneeling.

Within the history of EC, several countries have tried to make domestic opposition to EC a commodity when benefits were to be distributed across the Council of Ministers' table.

It is not easy to say who has benefited the most from this situation. Within some EC circles, many are of the opinion that Danish negotiators exploited the formidable Danish opposition to EC to its fullest during the negotiations on admission in 1972. These same circles feel the Danes received many benefits from the temporary decisions with respect to agricultural arrangements as well as considerable long-term benefits from EC agricultural policies. More obvious, perhaps, were the benefits reaped by Great Britain during its budget struggle last spring, when Britain's contribution to EC was lowered substantially, beyond all applicable rules.

In both instances, the Federal Republic of Germany helped to pay for the feast. West Germans have strong political interests in the EC cooperation and so far they have been willing to pay for that. However, after accommodating Great Britain last spring, the West German government declared that two basic demands would have to be met in order for them to remain a member of the EC: a revision of agricultural policies and the establishment of a joint fishing policy before the end of 1980. That did not happen.

The great battle over agricultural policies has been postponed till fall and Denmark, for one, has effectively blocked the establishment of a joint fishing policy. The EC Commission did approve three items in connection with a joint fishing policy and submitted these for the Council's approval prior to the meeting of EC fishing ministers last December.

These items resulted from negotiations among the commission, Norway and Canada and were submitted in the form of two drafts together with a proposal on future distribution of fishing quotas among the EC nations.

At that time, former fishing minister Poul Dalsager did not have so much trouble getting authorization from the Marketing Committee. He went to Brussels, authorized to stall all three proposals with a Danish veto. The main reason that same thing did not happen at the meeting last Tuesday is that Denmark is very much interested in the EC agreement with Norway and pushed for its adoption. Hence, the basic reason for Denmark's former negotiating tactics was no longer valid. In short, the reasoning was that whatever Denmark lost externally would have to be made up internally, thus stipulating that third-party agreements and internal distribution be determined at approximately the same time.

This course of action was not tolerated. After blocking the three proposals at the December meeting, the West German government acted independently by issuing fishing licenses to ships from the so-called German "High Seas Fleet" for the purpose of fishing unused cod quotas off the coast of East Greenland instead of West Greenland.

Through bilateral negotiations, Denmark managed to halt this fishing until last Tuesday, when the Council of Ministers met. EC lawyers have declared that Denmark cannot legally prevent this fishing, but Hjørtnas tried to prohibit the Germans from fishing off the coast of East Greenland in return for Denmark's acceptance of the EC-Norway agreement. It was this that triggered the turgid burst of anger on the part of Joseph Ertl, the liberal West-German fishing minister.

The West German "High Seas Fleet" is already prepared to fish in Canadian waters and has just been awaiting the "green light" from EC. That did not happen last Tuesday but, instead, Denmark accepted a decision to limit fishing off the coast of East Greenland, where the German government expects to satisfy its "High Seas Fleet" and the multinational capital behind it. The Federal Republic of Germany essentially holds Denmark responsible for the failure to reach an agreement with Canada and although Hjørtnas would like to share that responsibility with Great Britain and Ireland, he cannot get out of it.

Danish objections to EC agreements with Norway and Canada are based on the rather sensitive fishing interests on Greenland.

Considering the huge problems in connection with agricultural and fishing policies within the EC, West Germany's irritation over Denmark's clumsy attempt to cover itself on all fronts is not so surprising. On the other hand, it would not be particularly surprising either if Greenland observers at the Council of Ministers' meeting concluded that EC is not protecting their interests very well.

The growing perception of the catastrophic consequences of ongoing industrialized and exhaustive fishing will lead all nations to defend their fishing rights more zealously than ever. Such a struggle on every nation's part against all other nations calls for diverse attempts to secure some kind of international agreement. But there is much evidence that Greenland's struggle for independence can hardly be reconciled with the somewhat raw and primitive forms of cooperation that have been exhibited by EC so far.

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INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

LEFTIST MP ATTACKS GREENLAND TREATMENT IN EC-NORWAY PACT

Copenhagen INFORMATION in Danish 29 Jan 81 p 1

(Article by Lars Bennike)

[Text] "By accepting the EC-Norway fishing agreement, the Danish government has already sold out its Greenland interests in favor of Danish fishermen," Steen Folke, Socialist Liberal Party, told INFORMATION following Wednesday's special meeting of the Marketing Committee to discuss the results of Tuesday's negotiations in Brussels.

But in spite of the fact that the EC Council of Ministers formally approved the agreement Tuesday night, EC and Norwegian fishermen are not allowed to fish yet. Norwegian authorities had originally planned to start fishing on a temporary basis until licenses could be obtained for the individual ships but, according to Ritzau, the EC Commission told the Norwegian government that licenses must be issued before they can start fishing in EC waters and that will probably mean a delay of a couple of weeks since we are talking about 200 cutters weighing more than 200 gross tons. For that reason, Norway will not open its waters to EC fishermen either, unless the EC Commission withdraws its demand.

According to the agreement, fishermen from the various EC countries will now be permitted to take 90,000 tons of cod, 13,000 tons of plaice, 2,500 tons of mackerel and 200,000 tons industrial fish in Norwegian waters. It is hard to say what Danish fishermen will get out of this since the agreement is between EC and Norway, but it is estimated that Denmark will benefit from almost the entire quota of industrial fish. It was impossible to learn how much EC "paid" for the agreement with Norway, but it was mentioned at the meeting last Wednesday that the agreement was "in EC's favor."

"What actually sealed the agreement was giving Norway the right to take 1,000 tons of shrimp off the west coast of Greenland. The EC Council of Ministers also granted the "High Seas Fleet" permission to take 3,000 tons of cod before 10 February," according to Karl Hjortnas, without it affecting fishing quotas for 1981.

After the Marketing Committee met last Wednesday, Karl Hjortnas also said "it is clear that West Germany is only interested in reaching agreement with Canada. West Germany is not particularly interested in the EC-Norway agreement--as are specifically Denmark and Great Britain."

The reason West Germany independently last week--outside the EC Council of Ministers--licensed four shipping companies to take 4,000 tons of cod in East Greenland waters was that the agreement with Canada had not yet been negotiated. Explaining the Bonn government's action, West German Fishing Minister Joseph Brtl said that 10,000 jobs would be lost if West Germany were not permitted to fish in East Greenland waters. West Germany also claimed it has traditionally fished off the coast of East Greenland, which has not been the case in the last 2 years.

Beyond the Limits

Following the meeting last Wednesday, Steen Folke said that, in his opinion, Karl Hjortnas had gone beyond the limits of the mandate given to him by the Marketing Committee Tuesday evening to negotiate an agreement.

"It was not clear whether West Germany should be allowed to fish cod off the coast of East Greenland," said Steen Folke and repudiated West Germany's claim that it has a traditional right to fish in East Greenland waters because it has not made use of this right in the last 2 years.

"It is significant politically that EC made concessions to Norway, 1,000 tons of shrimp off the coast of West Greenland, and to West Germany, 3,000 tons of cod off the coast of East Greenland. Hjortnas is well aware that this agreement will have political ramifications well beyond 10 February," said Steen Folke. He also felt that Greenland had been given "a bird in the hand" in terms of a prospective 200-ton salmon quota in Canadian waters--to get them to accept the agreement.

"Canada is under no obligation to make such a concession," said Folke.

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CSO: 1200

INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

FRG TRAWLERS ALREADY HAVE EXCEEDED GREENLAND COD QUOTA

Copenhagen INFORMATION in Danish 29 Jan 81 p 1

[Article by Philip Lauritsen]

[Text] There are already 12 West German trawlers off the coast of East Greenland and yet another is expected to arrive on Thursday. Since the beginning of the year, a total of 19 West German trawlers have fished off the coast of East Greenland and, according to the government office in Nuuk (Godthab), they have already exceeded their quota by 87 tons.

The Greenland Commando told INFORMATION that the West German trawlers have been staying inside the fishing limits for plaice.

These waters are inspected continuously by a Hercules patrol plane based in Kangerlussuaq (Southern Strømfjord) and today, Thursday, the inspection vessel "Hvidbjørnen" is expected to arrive in East Greenland waters. The vessel was dispatched directly from Denmark and is said to have left Iceland Tuesday evening.

"We have not been informed of the latest political developments," said the assistant commander with the Greenland Commando in Gronnedal, but he expects to be advised shortly as to how to proceed with the inspection of West German cod fishing.

Excessive Cod Fishing

The government office in Nuuk receives regular reports on catches from all foreign ships off Greenland and has learned that even before West Germany was given permission to take 3,000 tons of cod in East Greenland waters, they had already exceeded their quota by 87 tons.

Foreign ships are allowed to fish up to 10 percent plaice under their cod quota. As of last Tuesday, the 19 West German trawlers had fished a total of 2,547 tons of plaice and 344 tons of cod. That is 87 tons too many.

Last Tuesday the government office in Nuuk informed the Greenland Ministry of the situation but, otherwise, nothing has been done to stop the fishing. It has been the practice of the local government office not to interfere with such fishing if the situation can be remedied within a week.

On Wednesday the Nuuk office reported there was little reason to step in now.

As of yet, there has been no significant reaction here to recent EC concessions to Norway and West Germany. Greenland's RADIOAVIS reported the agreements, but all home-rule fishing authorities are either in Brussels, Denmark or Canada.

The ruling Siumut Party is not happy about it, however. Party Secretary Kay Kleist, who is presently planning the party's campaign to withdraw from EC, said that EC itself is now aiding that campaign.

"Disclosure of EC's willingness to always sell out Greenland's interests is better than any organized campaign," said Kay Kleist.

It was not possible to get a commentary from the opposition party Atassut yesterday, which supports Greenland's membership in EC. Party Chairman Lars Chemnitz is in Denmark and the assistant party chairman, superintendent of schools Daniel Skifte, was in a meeting yesterday afternoon.

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CSO: 5200

INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

FRG RETREATS ON GREENLAND COD TAKE AFTER DANISH PROTEST

Copenhagen BERLINGSKE TIDENDE in Danish 24 Jan 81 p 2

[Article by Chr. Brondum]

[Text] In response to a protest from Denmark, the West German government yesterday decided to withdraw licenses issued to 11 West German trawlers to fish 4,000 tons of cod in East Greenland waters.

The West German government had issued the licenses only a few days prior to the scheduled meeting of EC fishing ministers to discuss new fishing agreements with Greenland, among other things. This move was viewed as a provocation by other EC partners and Denmark immediately sent a note of protest. That led to yesterday's withdrawal. Foreign Minister Kjeld Olesen said the Danish government now hopes to negotiate a solution to the problem.

However, the inspection vessel "Hvidbjornen" is presently on its way to East Greenland waters, where it will arrive sometime on Monday. Foreign Minister Kjeld Olesen announced yesterday that government instructions to "Hvidbjornen" will determine developments in the next few days.

If West German trawlers are caught fishing illegally off the coast of East Greenland, "Hvidbjornen" can issue warnings, levy fines or seize the trawlers.

The Danish government received notice last Wednesday of West Germany's independent decision to issue licenses to four native shipping companies. According to Kjeld Olesen, the licenses--which the West German government, in Olesen's opinion, cannot legally issue--were presumably granted in response to great pressure from West German shipping companies. Last Tuesday Kjeld Olesen protested to West Germany's deputy foreign minister, who promised that the matter would be dealt with at a cabinet meeting on Wednesday. Following that government meeting, however, it was announced that the matter would not be discussed until Thursday, 29 January at a meeting of the secretaries of state. That same day, the Danish government sent a note of protest to West Germany, pointing out that the West German government was acting in violation of the EC Treaty. According to Kjeld Olesen, the West German government responded to that note saying there would be no fishing until 29 January, the announced date for the meeting of secretaries of state. "We have taken note of that acknowledgement," said Kjeld Olesen.

West Germany's decision to send trawlers to Greenland--following 2 years of no cod fishing there--was based on EC's complex and so far unresolved fishing problems, together with and particularly because of the West German trawler fleet's great economic problems. The West German fishing licenses were issued just prior to a meeting of EC fishing ministers in Brussels next Tuesday to try to work out an agreement. The West German provocation will be discussed at that meeting, even though the Danish government essentially views the matter as a unilateral rather than an EC problem.

"This is a tangle which Denmark and--I believe--West Germany are interested in solving," said Kjeld Olesen yesterday.

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CSO: 5200

INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

BRIEFS

ICELAND-FAEROES FISHING PACT--Iceland and the Faeroes signed a new 1981 fishing pact in Reykjavik last Tuesday. According to the pact, the Faeroes are allowed to take 17,000 tons of flat-fish and 6,000 tons of cod, the same as last year. There was lively discussion about the Faeroes' salmon fishing and Faeroese representatives expressed understanding of Iceland's interests with respect to salmon that comes from Icelandic rivers. The parties agreed to cooperate on salmon stock research, but the Faeroes stated that, according to all available evidence, the salmon fished near the Faeroes comes from Sweden, Norway and Ireland. [Text] [Copenhagen BERLINGSKE TIDENDE in Danish 14 Jan 81 p 11] 8952

CSO: 5200

MP, DELEGATE TO EUROPEAN COUNCIL LOS MEET INTERVIEWED

Reykjavik MORGUNBLADID in Icelandic 15 Feb 81 p 61

[Report on interview with Thorvaldur Gardar Kristjansson: "Discussions About Fisheries at the Meeting of the EC"]

[Text] During recent years the EC has been a very important forum for us Icelanders as there we have had the opportunity to make our position on fisheries and law of the sea issues known, and to have an influence on the policy of the European nations in these matters. At the meetings of the EC, questions regarding the law of the sea, fisheries, oceanic pollution, etc., have always been discussed.

Thorvaldur Gardar Kristjansson, member of parliament, has just returned from the meeting of the EC which he attended with Kjartan Johannsson, Olafur Ragnar Grimsson and Ingolfur Gudnason, members of Parliament. A reporter from the MORGUNBLADID talked to Kristjansson and asked him about the meeting's most newsworthy points.

"Obviously there were many matters to be discussed, but what is always of the greatest importance for us Icelanders is, of course, the law of the sea and fisheries issues," said Kristjansson. "We, the representatives of Iceland at the EC meeting, have always had a part in these matters and never left an opportunity unused to explain and interpret our views on them. These explanations of our position turned out to be important for us in connection with the law of the sea matters. During the Cod Wars these matters were discussed at EC meetings, but the British and the Germans who were our greatest opponents, are members of EC. At a meeting of the EC that ended 28 January fisheries issues were discussed. In connection with this discussion, Steingrimur Hermannsson, minister of fisheries, was invited to give a speech which he did. The Icelandic representatives took a very active part in these discussions at the meeting. A proposal to an agreement about fisheries issues lay before the meeting, in which it was, among other things, proposed that the ministerial committees lay the following proposal before the governments: "That governments should lay special emphasis on the necessity of taking a more active part in the coordination of the operation of the fishing industry, all the way from the point of production to marketing, and to give financial assistance." In an addendum it is proposed, "that the governments establish a special fund which would grant the fishing industry loans and assistance--where this has not already been done."

In my speech I referred to the proposal and the accompanying explanatory statement. I expressed my pleasure with many parts of it, for example concerning fish conservation. I also discussed the importance that the coastal states have the last word concerning law of the sea matters and fish conservation, as they had the greatest interests at stake. Now, when the 200 mile fisheries jurisdiction has been generally acknowledged, new possibilities for that to happen had been created. In this connection I want to mention the fight we Icelanders had to go through in order to gain control of the fishing in the ocean around the country--where previously fishing went on without any control and exhaustion was foreseeable if that continued.

I emphasized especially in my speech, that the views of the Icelanders were totally against the policy stated in the proposal and I mentioned above, concerning state subsidies and state assistance for fishing and fishing industry. I pointed out that such a policy would be impossible to implement in Iceland, as fishing and fishing industry were the main industries of the nation, and therefore it would not be likely that other industries could support them.

I further pointed out, from the view of European states in general, that government policy and subsidy policy in fisheries must be questionable--it directly promoted supporting fisheries at the expense of the taxpayers--fisheries that in many instances were conducted under poor conditions and bad natural conditions. On the other hand, it would be most feasible if this industry was to be practiced where the natural resources were present in the greatest abundance--that would be the most convenient for the consumer, as thereby it would be guaranteed that the merchandise would be obtained at the most favorable price. Government subsidies therefore had a primarily negative effect; they would disturb normal marketing laws and prevent convenient division of work between nations.

"All Icelanders who participated in these discussions also stressed this view," concluded Kristjansson.

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